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| 09/988,617 | 11/20/2001 | Sumio Nishiyama | 107156-00080 | 8798 |

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| EXAMINER |
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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2672

DATE MAILED: 06/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/988,617

Applicant(s)

NISHIYAMA, SUMIO

Examiner

Ryan R. Yang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/17/2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4,5,7 and 9-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4,5,7 and 9-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Response, filed on 2/17/2005.

This action is final.

2. Claims 2, 4-5, 7 and 9-14 are pending in this application. Claims 12-14 are independent claims.
3. This application claims foreign priority dated 11/28/2000.
4. The present title of the invention is "Method and system for displaying images" as filed originally.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
6. Claims 9-14, 2, 4-5 and 7 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Goto et al. (5,434,591).
7. As per claim 12, Goto et al., hereinafter Goto, discloses a method of displaying a vector-mode image in which a plurality of points designated on a screen are linked to display the required image, comprising the steps of:

classifying vector data, indicating a plurality of points for displaying the image, into a group of data comprising indispensable points, wherein a number of the plurality of points included in the indispensable points is substantially equal to a minimum number of the plurality of points required to recognize the image, and a group of data comprising supplementary points for supplementing the indispensable points to display

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a more precise image, for storage on a storage member (Figure 6- item 51, 52 and 53, where 51 is the image generated by indispensable points and 52-53 are images generated by supplemental points which provide for a more precise image); and

selecting between displaying the image represented only by the data group comprising the indispensable points and displaying the image represented by the data group comprising the indispensable points plus the data group comprising the supplementary points, when the image is displayed (Figure 6, item 3 and 9, where 9 is the selection circuit and 3 provides the selection).

wherein the image is represented only by the data group comprising the indispensable points when being scrolled on a screen ("During the scrolling ... the house information and the owner information are omitted from the pictures, and the only the road information is indicated", column 5, line 21-26, where the road information is considered indispensable points).

8. As per claim 13, Goto discloses a system of displaying an image in which a plurality of points designated on a screen are linked to display the required vector image, comprising:

a data storage member for classifying vector data, indicating a plurality of points for representing the image, into a data group comprising indispensable points, wherein a number of the plurality of points included in the indispensable points is substantially equal to a minimum number of the plurality of points required to recognize the image, and a data group comprising supplementary points for supplementing the indispensable points to represent the more precise image, and for storing the vector

data (Figure 6, item 51, 52 and 53, where 51 is the image generated by indispensable points and 52-53 are images generated by supplemental points which provide for a more precise image); and

an image quality selection member for selecting between reading merely the data group comprising the indispensable points from said data storage member for displaying the image and reading the data group comprising the indispensable points plus the data group comprising the supplementary points from said data storage member for displaying the image (Figure 6, item 3 and 9, where 9 is the selection circuit and 3 provides the selection);

wherein said image quality selection member selects the image display represented only by the data group comprising the indispensable points when the image is scrolled on a screen ("During the scrolling ... the house information and the owner information are omitted from the pictures, and the only the road information is indicated", column 5, line 21-26, where the road information is indispensable points).

9. As per claim 14, Goto discloses a system of displaying an image in which a plurality of points designated on a screen are linked to display the required vector image, comprising:

a data storage member for classifying vector data, indicating a plurality of points for representing the image, into a data group comprising indispensable points for recognizing the image, wherein a number of the plurality of points for representing the image included in the plurality of indispensable points is a constant number of points, and a data group comprising supplementary points for supplementing the

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indispensable points to represent the more precise image, and for storing the vector data (Figure 6, where data are classified into 51, 52 and 53, where 51 is the image generated by indispensable points and is a constant number of points and 52-53 are images generated by supplemental points which provide for a more precise image); and

an image quality selection member for selecting between reading the data group comprising the indispensable points from said data storage member for displaying the image and reading the data group comprising the indispensable points plus the data group comprising the supplementary points from said data storage member for displaying the image (Figure 6, item 3 and 9, where 9 is the selection circuit and 3 provides the selection);

wherein said image quality selection member selects the image display represented only by the data group comprising the indispensable points when the image is scrolled on a screen ("During the scrolling ... the house information and the owner information are omitted from the pictures, and the only the road information is indicated", column 5, line 21-26, where the road information is indispensable points).

10. As per claim 2, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses the vector data indicating the supplementary points are classified into a plurality of data groups for supplementing the indispensable points in stages for storage on the storage member, and a selection among the classified plural data groups indicating the supplementary points is made in stages for supplementing the indispensable points in stages to display the image

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(Figure 6 where the supplemental data is classified into group 52 and 53, they are stored in a frame memory 5 and is selectable (9 and 3) to supplement indispensable data 51).

11. As per claim 4, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses selection between displaying the image represented by the data group indicating the indispensable points and displaying the image represented by the data group indicating the indispensable points plus the data group indicating the supplementary points is made in accordance with the amount of data of the image ("a processor 3 equivalent to the processor in Fig. 3 receives information indicating the scrolling direction and the scrolling speed from the input unit 8, and it calculates the amount of pattern data to-be-scrolled on the basis of the scrolling speed by means of the arithmetic unit 32. In general, the calculation is carried out such that, as the scrolling speed increases, the amount of pattern data to-be-scrolled decreases. In conformity with that amount of pattern data to-be-scrolled which has been determined here, a unit 31 determines the frame memory readout masking required, as described before, and supplies the frame memory masking information 33 to the frame memory readout masking device 9 shown in Fig. 6", column 6, line 21-34, since the amount of data is determined by the scrolling speed).

12. As per claim 5, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses selection between displaying the image represented only by the data group indicating the indispensable points and displaying the image represented by the data group indicating the indispensable points

and the date group indicating the supplementary points is made in accordance with data memory capacity required for displaying the image (Figure 6, where readout masking device 9 represents the data memory capacity to display the image).

13. As per claim 7, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 13, supra, and further discloses said data storage member classifies the vector data, indicating the supplementary points, into a plurality of data groups for supplementing the indispensable points in stages and stores the vector data, and in the displaying of the image said image quality selection member selects among the classified plural data groups indicating the supplementary points in stages to supplement the indispensable points in stages (Figure 6, where item 5 is a frame memory, 51 is the image generated by the indispensable points and 52-53 are images generated by supplemental points and read out mask 9 and processor 3 perform the selection).

14. As per claim 9, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 13, supra, and further discloses said image quality selection member makes, in accordance with the amount of image data, the selection between displaying the image represented only by the data group indicating the indispensable points and displaying the image represented by the data group indicating the indispensable points plus the date group indicating the supplementary points (Figure 6, item 3 and 9, where 9 is the selection circuit and 3 provides the selection).

15. As per claim 10, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 13, supra, and further discloses said image quality selection

member makes, in accordance with data memory capacity required for displaying the image, the selection between displaying the image represented only by the data group indicating the indispensable points and displaying the image represented by the data group indicating the indispensable points plus the data group indicating the supplementary points (Figure 6, item 3 and 9, where 9 is the selection circuit and 3 provides the selection).

16. As per claim 11, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 13, *supra*, and further discloses said data storage member is provided in a server providing image data through a computer network (Figure 3, item 11).

Response to Arguments

17. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 12-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant alleges Goto's Figure 6- item 51 does not correspond to applicant's claimed "indispensable points". In reply, examiner considers the "indispensable points" which is substantially equal to a minimum number of the plurality of points required to recognize the image as claimed is subjective to interpretation because different people would have different opinions on what constitute the "minimum number of the plurality of points required to recognize the image". Without a clear boundary of the stated limitation, the examiner considers his interpretation of the limitation, in view of Goto, is equally valid.

Conclusion

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18. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.


Inquiries

19. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan R Yang whose telephone number is (571) 272-7666. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi can be reached on (571) 272-7664. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Ryan Yang
June 8, 2005